

The CIA Will Crowd Our Garden Spot

By FRED OTHMAN

CPYRGHT

McLEAN, Va., June 25—I'm beginning to learn a little more about my new neighbor, Allen Dulles, and the cloak and dagger boys of the Central Intelligence Agency, who are about to build themselves a \$56,000,000 headquarters about a mile down the pike from my beaten-up acres.

This will be the second biggest building the Government owns (the Pentagon is first) and I must presume that our village soon will be beset with traffic jams of international sleuths in raincoats with belts around their middles.

Mr. Dulles' outfit is the most secretive in the Government; nobody knows how much money it spends, how many agents it has in which far places, or even what they do. Not even Congress can demand the details.



Mr. Othman

But to build his mighty headquarters in the wood on a bluff overlooking the Potomac River, Mr. Dulles has got to ask the Appropriations Committee for the money and when he did that, he inadvertently spilled some of the dope.

BUILDING

His building's going to be five stories tall and 1200 feet long smack in the middle of a 750-acre forest, where deer, foxes and jackrabbits now play. Mr. Dulles wouldn't say how many hawkshaws his new building would hold, but he did insist that there be a parking lot for 4000 cars.

A good deal of their work apparently will consist of decoding radio-grams arriving from other plain-clothes men in odd parts of the globe. So elaborate will be the communication setup that the radio and microwave antennas on the roof will cost \$50,000.

SPENDING

The management's figuring also on spending \$105,000 on three special ingenerators, to which will lead a security chute, for the disposal of secret documents. This comes as a blow to a reader of E. Phillips Oppenheim: I always had the idea that international agents memorized the documents, chewed a while, and then swallowed them.

Dulles and Co. figure on building a \$500,000 emergency electric power plant and this probably is just as well. I wish I had one, myself. The ice of winter out our way always is pulling down tree limbs, wrecking power lines and turning off the deep freeze.

Once for two days my bride and I had nothing much to eat but sandwiches (by candle light) because of one of these catastrophes. The electric stove went off and so did the oil furnace and it is good to know that the new neighbors won't suffer these inconveniences. They'll just start their diesel engine and the lights will go back on again.

MONEY

Mr. Dulles said if he got the money he could occupy his 2,000,000 square feet of floor space in about three years. A couple of the legislators suggested that if he'd fire some of his flat feet, he wouldn't need such a big building. He didn't agree.

The CIA's going to get the money, or at least most of it, and I don't believe our town is going to be the same. If anybody wants to buy my farm for a shopping center, I'm open to offers.